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Patent  
Docket No.: 12003022

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Jorg VORTKORT; Friedrich  
GRABNER; Andre BONTEMPS; and  
Stefan VOLKMANN

Serial No.: 09/913,613  
Filed: August 15, 2001

For: THERMOPLASTIC  
VULCANIZATE AND ITS  
METHOD OF PRODUCTION

Group Art Unit: 1713

Examiner: William K. Cheung

VIA FAX:  
703-872-9306

Confirmation No:  
2511

**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**Introductory Comments**

In response to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2003, Applicants submit remarks and request reconsideration of the application.

The undersigned is empowered to file this Response according to a Power of Attorney received by the Office on December 31, 2003. If in doubt, the undersigned is an Assistant Secretary of the Assignee of Record (Reel 014033 Frame 0084).

This response contains **Specification Amendments, Claim Amendments, and Remarks**, each beginning on a separate sheet.

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

21 January 2004  
Date

Signed

*John H. Hornickel*  
John H. Hornickel, Reg. No. 29,393